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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 08TRIPOLI680, SCENESETTER FOR SECRETARY RICE'S VISIT TO

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#08TRIPOLI680**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
08TRIPOLI680	2008-08-29 18:11	2011-08-30 01:44	SECRET	Embassy Tripoli

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/wikileaks-files/libya-wikileaks/>

VZCZCXRO1989
OO RUEHTRO
DE RUEHTRO #0680/01 2421811
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
O 291811Z AUG 08
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3831
INFO RUEHTU/AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE 0602
RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE 0755
RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE 0699
RUEHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE 0001
RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI 4345

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 04 TRIPOLI 000680

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR S, AF/SPG, NEA/MAG

EO 12958 DECL: 8/28/2018
TAGS OVIP, PGOV, PREL, PHUM, ECON, KDEM, PTER, KISL, AU, SU,
LY, AG, TS, MO
SUBJECT: SCENESETTER FOR SECRETARY RICE'S VISIT TO

LIBYA

CLASSIFIED BY: Chris Stevens, CDA, U.S. Embassy - Tripoli, Dept of
State. REASON: 1.4 (b), (c), (d) 1. (C) Embassy Tripoli and the Government of Libya are looking forward to your historic visit to Tripoli Septe
-- Internal political issues
-- Bilateral relations
-- Human rights
-- Counter-terrorism cooperation
-- Sub-Saharan Africa
-- Regional issues, including Iraq and Iran
-- Energy sector and commercial opportunities

INTERNAL POLITICAL ISSUES

12. (C) Your visit comes days after the 39th anniversary of the September 1, 1969 military coup that brought Muammar al-Qadhafi to power. It is

BILATERAL RELATIONS

13. (C) Your visit - the first by a U.S. Secretary of State since John Foster Dulles' trip in 1953 and the most recent Cabinet-level visit sinc

14. (C) Libyan reaction to news of the recently finalized

TRIPOLI 00000680 002 OF 004

U.S.-Libya claims settlement agreement has been a mixture of relief and high expectation. Coverage in state-owned media has been positive, but

HUMAN RIGHTS & POLITICAL FREEDOMS

15. (S) There are high expectations in some quarters that the U.S. will pressure al-Qadhafi and the GOL more publicly and directly to urge grea

16. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXX Absent a clear message that engagement on human rights will be a necessary adjunct of an expanded U.S.-Libya relationship
COUNTER-TERRORISM COOPERATION & EXTREMISM

17. (S) Libya has been a strong partner in the war against terrorism and cooperation in liaison channels is excellent. Muammar al-Qadhafi's cri
TRIPOLI 00000680 003 OF 004
Development Foundation brokered talks with imprisoned members of the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG) that led to the release earlier this

SUB SAHARAN AFRICA

18. (C) Having largely abandoned pan-Arab leadership aspirations, the GOL places a heavy premium on maintaining its perceived role as a leading

REGIONAL ISSUES

19. (S) Iraqi spokesman Ali Dabbagh recently met with Muammar al-Qadhafi, who expressed interest in pursuing closer relations with Iraq. It was
TRIPOLI 00000680 004 OF 004
emulate Dubai in its development approach, Libya has recently pursued closer ties with Arab Gulf states. A \$500 million joint investment fund w

ENERGY SECTOR & COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

110. (C) Libya's economy is almost entirely dependent on oil and gas. Libya has the largest proven oil reserves (43.6 billion barrels) and the

111. (C) After years of isolation under sanctions and limited spending by the GOL, Libya is currently in the midst of an economic boom, partly

AL-QADHAFI & HIS FOREIGN MINISTER

112. (C) Muammar al-Qadhafi is notoriously mercurial. He often avoids making eye contact during the initial portion of meetings, and there may

STEVENS